



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park of
American Samoa

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National Park of American Samoa News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 3, 2014

Tourism to the National Park of American Samoa Creates \$562,800 in Economic Benefit

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—A new National Park Service report shows that 10,440 visitors to the National Park of American Samoa in 2012 spent \$562,800 in villages near the park. That spending supported seven jobs in the local area.

“The National Park of American Samoa is proud to welcome visitors from around the world,” said Superintendent Jim Bacon. “We are delighted to share the story of this place and the experiences it provides and to use the park as a way to introduce our visitors to this part of the South Pacific and all that it offers. National park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy—returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service—and it’s a big factor in our local economy as well. We appreciate the partnership and support of the villages and are glad to be able to give back by helping to sustain local communities.”

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by U.S. Geological Survey Economist Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Christopher Huber and Lynne Koontz for the National Park Service. The report shows \$14.7 billion of direct spending by 283 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 243,000 jobs nationally, with 201,000 jobs found in the gateway communities, and had a cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy of \$26.75 billion.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

According to the report most visitor spending supports jobs in restaurants, grocery and convenience stores (39 percent), hotels, motels, and B&Bs (27 percent), and other amusement and recreation (20 percent).

To download the report visit www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm. This report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks and by state.

To learn more about the National Park of American Samoa and how the National Park Service works with the American Samoa villages to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to www.nps.gov/americansamoa.

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About the National Park of American Samoa. The national park was established in 1988 to preserve and protect the coral reefs, tropical rainforests, fruit bats, the Samoan culture, and to provide for the enjoyment of these to this and future generations. National park lands and waters in Tutuila, Ta'ū, and Ofu islands are leased from villages and the American Samoa Government through a long-term agreement with the National Park Service.

For more information about visiting the National Park of American Samoa, call 633-7082, email npsa_info@nps.gov, or go to www.nps.gov/npsa. Also, visit the national park's Facebook and Twitter pages.

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